

From: [Nightingale, Elizabeth](#)
To: ["Baranoski, Michael \(DEQ\)"](#)
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance - Quick question
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 10:09:00 AM

Thanks Mike – Did it seem like the labels probably did reflect what was in the containers?

Betsy Nightingale
Federal On-Scene Coordinator
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From: Baranoski, Michael (DEQ) [<mailto:BARANOSKIM@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 10:58 AM
To: Nightingale, Elizabeth
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance - Quick question

Hi Betsy, there are about six drums stored in one building, but they are labelled. Mostly oils, I think. Mike

Michael Baranoski
Environmental Quality Analyst
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Remediation Division
Kalamazoo District Office
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From: Nightingale, Elizabeth [<mailto:nightingale.elizabeth@epa.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, April 23, 2014 10:44 AM
To: Hohm, Janelle (DEQ); Baranoski, Michael (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance - Quick question

One quick question – Did you observe any containers of unknown substances on site?

Thanks!

Betsy

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From: Hohm, Janelle (DEQ) [<mailto:HOHMJ@michigan.gov>]

Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 4:37 PM
To: Nightingale, Elizabeth; Baranoski, Michael (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance

I'm not available on Thursday, but I don't think I need to be there. I was there with Mike a few weeks ago, and I identified concerns from an industrial storm water perspective.

Betsy, please let me know if you have any questions for me. The facility previously had an industrial storm water permit, which expired. The facility now needs a new ISW permit since there is exposure on the site again. This would need to be done via an ACO, which I explained to Mr. Reid.

Janelle Hohm
Water Resources Division
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From: Nightingale, Elizabeth [<mailto:nightingale.elizabeth@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 4:31 PM
To: Baranoski, Michael (DEQ)
Cc: Ballo, Frank (DEQ); Heywood, David (DEQ); Hohm, Janelle (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance

Hi Mike – I just called Mr. Reid to request that he sign an EPA access agreement, and he said he would prefer to meet us on site. Would this Thursday work for DEQ for a site walk with him? I probably will need to come back again then afterwards to collect samples – I don't think I'll be able get that all arranged by Thursday – I can try though. Did DEQ ever collect any samples of the piles or any of the other waste/materials of concern? If you did, if you could forward the results of those too, I'd appreciate it.

Thanks,

Betsy

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From: Baranoski, Michael (DEQ) [<mailto:BARANOSKIM@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 3:53 PM
To: Nightingale, Elizabeth
Cc: Ballo, Frank (DEQ); Heywood, David (DEQ); Hohm, Janelle (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Alreco Metals, Request for Assistance

Hi Betsy, attached is a copy of the reply letter we received from Mr. Dorie Reid, the facility owner, along with some of the pictures I took on a site inspection we did at the beginning of the month. Mr. Reid proposes to attempt to attain financing to conduct the cleanup of the ash piles (about a 200 X 80 feet area about 8 feet high), many bags of bag house waste stored in a crumbling structure, and various drums, waste piles and miscellaneous debris scattered across the property. The site is adjacent to the floodplain of the Paw Paw River.

Mr. Reid proposes to secure the ash from becoming windborne with tarps (yet

to be ordered) and to secure two of the many drains on the site. Because it is unclear that Mr. Reid will actually be able to obtain financing to conduct cleanup by September and if he is unable to do so, this waste will remain in place until at least next year, I think that a more timely response is probably warranted to address the waste stored here before it is either blown or washed onto the floodplain.

I would like to invite you to conduct a site inspection and would be happy to meet you on site at your earliest convenience. Contact information for the property owner is included below. I appreciate your assistance in this matter. Best regards, Mike

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From: Nightingale, Elizabeth [<mailto:nightingale.elizabeth@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 11:48 AM
To: Baranoski, Michael (DEQ)
Subject: Alreco Metals

Hi Mike,

When would be a good time for you to schedule a site visit? Next week Monday and Tuesday are open for me. The following week M-W are best for me.

I need to try and get a federal access agreement signed by the landowner – so I'll look into that too. If you do uncover any landowner contact info if you wouldn't mind forwarding that I'd appreciate it.

Thanks!

Betsy

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From: Ballo, Frank (DEQ) [<mailto:BALLOF@michigan.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 10:07 AM
To: Nightingale, Elizabeth

Cc: Clements, Mindy; Baranoski, Michael (DEQ); Bennett, Bree (DEQ)
Subject: RE: Potential Site Candidate for EPA Time Critical Response

Thanks, Betsy. The company is no longer operating on the property, so our previous contact information no longer works. We have an old cell phone number for the principal of the company, Dorie Reid, of 616-299-8904. I've called the number and left messages, but haven't received a call back. Mike Baranoski (269-567-3524, baranoskim@michigan.gov) is our project manager for this.

At this point we'd like to refer it to EPA. Give Mike a call to see to see if the two of you can schedule a site visit, and in the interim we'll see if we can glean any additional information on the company/principal.

Thanks again, and contact Mike or me if you have any questions.

--Frank

From: Nightingale, Elizabeth [<mailto:nightingale.elizabeth@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, March 31, 2014 8:46 AM
To: Ballo, Frank (DEQ)
Cc: Clements, Mindy
Subject: RE: Potential Site Candidate for EPA Time Critical Response

Hi Frank,

We can absolutely take a look at it. Is it at the point where you would like to refer it to EPA, and have us do an assessment, or are you still looking into options? I'm in Ohio this week, but will be around some of next week and the following week if you would like to schedule a site visit.

Do you happen to have a phone number for the current owner or their attorney?

My cell is 734-770-8402.

Betsy

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From: Kimble, Jeffrey
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 4:16 PM
To: Clements, Mindy; Ballo, Frank (DEQ)
Cc: Edwards, Tricia; Nightingale, Elizabeth
Subject: Fw: Potential Site Candidate for EPA Time Critical Response

Thanks Frank, as much as I'd love to do another site right now, I won't get any assigned to me until EPA is done at the Enbridge site in Marshall and Kalamazoo, hopefully this fall. I am forwarding this to my supervisor so she can assign it and cc'in a couple coworkers who I know don't have as many sites as others in our office. Thanks and feel free to call me or Mindy with questions.

Thanks for the referral.

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Verizon Wireless 4G LTE network.

From: Ballo, Frank (DEQ) <BALLOF@michigan.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2014 10:21 AM
To: Kimble, Jeffrey
Cc: Wagner, Robert (DEQ); Erickson, Susan (DEQ); Eagle, Dennis (DEQ)

Subject: Potential Site Candidate for EPA Time Critical Response

Good morning, Jeff, hope you're doing well.

We have a site that was a former secondary aluminum processor called Alreco Metals, Site ID 11000336 (aka Tobian Metals, aka Ace Companies, aka Harbor Light Metals), 900 Alreco Drive, Benton Harbor, Berrien County. Tax records indicate the current property owner is the Reid Group, LLC, P.O. Box 8711, Grand Rapids, MI 49518. Our understanding is the company has either gone through or is going through bankruptcy, and recently someone has been salvaging/demolishing the building. A recent site visit by one of our Air Quality Division staff documented the current state of the building and confirmed large piles of gray aluminum dross now exposed to the elements and the environment (attached). The site is immediately adjacent to wetlands and approximately 200 feet from the Paw Paw River (Google link below). Given the potential nature of dross (Alcoa link below), we're understandably concerned.

We're still gathering information on the situation and haven't been in contact with a company representative, but I thought I'd contact you to see if this is something EPA might take a look at.

Thanks very much, and let me know if you've got questions or need additional information.

Frank

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